

NATIONAL LEAD INFORMATION CENTER

QUARTERLY REPORT

AUGUST 1 THROUGH OCTOBER 31, 1996

A. Hotline Operation

Calls to the lead hotline, 800-LEAD-FYI, totaled 5,862 during this period. The calls are answered with an automated system with Spanish and English option and a package of basic information is sent to each caller. See attached graph. The number of calls to the hotline dropped significantly after expiration of the radio and TV PSAs, but has picked up somewhat since the announcement of the disclosure rule (Title X, Section 1018.) and the running of transit PSAs in several cities.

In addition to the primary state/local contact list covering all states, callers from the following states receive more detailed state-specific contact information: Arizona, California, the District of Columbia, Georgia, Illinois, Ohio, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Wisconsin. State officials in Florida, Kentucky and Maryland have requested that the current 50-state contact list information be used without further detail.

NLIC staff began discussions with EPA staff on option to update or change the hotline.

B. Clearinghouse

There were a total of 53,592 calls to the Clearinghouse during the period August through October. The majority of calls were questions about the disclosure rule, or requests for copies of the disclosure regulation, copies of "Protect Your Family," and the sample disclosure forms. NLIC continued to take responsibility for printing and collating all the materials to handle these requests.

Since the release of the disclosure rule in March, the volume of calls has increased to tenfold the typical volume prior to that. The office phone system has been expanded and additional stations set up and additional consultants and temporary agency personnel hired to help handle the increased volume.

All of the information request calls to the Clearinghouse are tracked in a computer database designed for the Clearinghouse. Staff record the information, including the caller's name and address, his/her questions, literature requested and duration of call, directly to the database at the time of each call.

Also during the quarter, NLIC responded to several thousand calls regarding lead in miniblinds and playgrounds. These resulted from the CPSC warning the imported vinyl mini-blinds may contain lead and should be removed from homes with children under seven, and CPSC's report on lead in playgrounds.

NLIC also distributed copies of the database of lead educational materials that was developed in cooperation with the National Lead Training and Resource Center. Copies were distributed to key federal agency contacts and EPA regional offices. In addition, searches for specific information (such as materials in a specific language) are done for individuals upon request. EHC is continuing to gather and add materials to the database and will reprint the hard copy early in 1997. NLIC staff continued to assist state and local agency representatives who request sample information and technical assistance in setting up local outreach programs.

NLIC also continued to work on adding lead-related information to the Council's home page on the World Wide Web. In particular, additional information on disclosure and lead in miniblinds has been added, and links to other resources and document ordering information are being added.

NLIC also continued work on an updated "Questions and Answers" document including incorporating comments from EPA, HUD and CDC.

NLIC, after a competitive bidding process, selected an outside vendor to operate an automated system to increase the efficiency of handling the increased volume of calls to the clearinghouse. Because the majority of the calls are simply requests for disclosure documents, the new system allows callers the immediate option of ordering documents (via mail, fax or from the Council's web page), as well as an option to speak to an information specialist.

The system has several benefits including increasing the overall capacity to handle calls, making fulfillment of simple document requests more efficient, and freeing up the information specialists to assist callers with specific questions rather than take straight-forward orders. The system gives callers the option to receive information by fax which will be sent via an automated fax-back system. This is particularly critical as the regulations become effective and callers are anxious for the information necessary to comply with the law.

The reference notebook for staff answering calls was revised and updated.

C. PSA Activities

In addition to a poster version of the black and white print public service announcement, NLIC has prepared and printed copies of a poster version of the color interior bus PSA. This effort resulted from several specific requests for a poster version of the colorful bus PSA.

Staff began work on developing a new radio PSA on lead poisoning prevention. After a competitive bidding process, Finger Lakes Productions was selected to produce the PSAs. The PSAs are scheduled to be focus group tested in December and distributed nationwide for airing in February 1997.

D. Outreach

NLIC staff are assisting the New York City Department of Health to develop and outreach effort that will involve putting lead poisoning information on milk cartons distributed throughout the region in the month of December. The notice will refer people to NLIC Clearinghouse for more information.

Max Weintraub continued an effort to facilitate communication and to coordinate some activities on lead-related issues impacting Native Americans. As part of this effort, a letter was prepared and sent to approximately 700 tribal representatives.

Kim McCauley and Max Weintraub continued to participate on the planning committees for two outreach meetings. The first, "Lead in the Southwest," will be held November 14 and 15 in Phoenix, Arizona. The second, "Lead in the Northwest," will be held in Portland, Oregon on June 27, 1997. The Portland meeting is a follow-up meeting to a meeting held in Portland last December.

NLIC staff hosted a booth at the Lead tech conference in early October. Staff also hosted a hospitality suite which was sponsored by the Children's Television Workshop.

Staff member Jeff Shavelson attended an environmental justice seminar in New Orleans in October. This was a preliminary step in a lead poisoning prevention project of the Deep South Center for Environmental Justice which NLIC is assisting with. The project is supported by EPA's Office of Environmental Justice.

Janet Phoenix has provided assistance to the DC Environmental Justice Coalition in setting up a local lead speakers bureau.

NLIC also prepared a 60-second radio piece on the disclosure rule which will be aired as part of the "Environminute" program. It will likely air in December on approximately 170 radio stations across the country.

The most recent issue of Lead Inform was sent to 3700 subscribers and included a resource summary of contacts and materials from the first year of publication.

E. Other Activities

Dissemination of the "Sesame Street Lead Away!" materials continued through the period. (All of these materials and related activities are funded through a grant from The Prudential Foundation.)

On September 14 through October 4 Janet Phoenix participated in a project under subcontract from USAID to assist Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency in development of lead exposure reduction plan called “Lead Exposure and Abatement Plan” (LEAP). While in Egypt, she interviewed governmental, nongovernmental agency folks and academics to gain perspective on which institutions might be critical in reducing lead exposure.

NLIC also assisted with EPA’s National Lead Conference in Scottsdale, Arizona in mid-September. NLIC arranged for display of state lead educational materials and display of electronic information, and prepared a summary of state lead legislation based information from NCSL.

National Lead Information Center

Quarterly Report - November 1, 1996 through January 31, 1997

A. Hotline Operation

The lead hotline, 800-LEAD-FYI, received a total of total of 4,588 calls during the past quarter. (See attached graph) The calls are answered with an automated system with Spanish and English options and a package of basic information is sent to each caller. The number of calls to the hotline has tapered off since the initial implementation of the disclosure rule (section 10 1 8 of Title X) in September 1996.

The primary state/local contact list covering all states has been updated and expanded. In addition to this new list, callers from the following states receive more detailed state-specific contact information: Arizona, California, the District of Columbia, Georgia, Illinois, Ohio, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Wisconsin.

Per our discussions with EPA, the Hotline soon will no longer exist as a separate line for information. Preparations have begun to redirect the Hotline into the prompt for the NLIC Clearinghouse in April. An extra option will be added to the prompt that will enable callers to leave their address to receive a Hotline packet. NLIC staff began discussions with EPA staff on options to update the Hotline packet into a general information packet.

B. Clearinghouse

There were a total of 51,817 calls to the Clearinghouse during the period of November through January. (See attached graph) 34,549 of these calls were handled by the automated service that provides various forms of disclosure-related information and 17268 of the calls were handled by information specialists. The majority of calls handled by information specialists consisted of questions about the disclosure rule, or requests for copies of the disclosure regulation, copies of "Protect Your Family," and the sample disclosure forms. However, the percentage of callers requesting information on other lead-related issues handled by information specialists is increasing. NLIC continued to take responsibility for printing and collating materials needed to handle these requests.

Between March 1996 (when the disclosure rule was released) and September 1996 (when the disclosure rule was initially implement), the volume of calls to the Clearinghouse increased tenfold. The call volume continues to fluctuate dramatically at times, but over time appears to be slowly tapering off.

All of the information request calls to the Clearinghouse are tracked in a computer database designed for the Clearinghouse. Staff record the information, including the caller's name and address, his/her questions, literature requested and duration of call, directly to the database at the time of each call.

In addition to handling the Hotline (see above), discussions have been held the EPA and HUD staff to modify the automated Clearinghouse phone prompt so that callers can directly access the Lead Listing beginning in April.

Debbie Cohen and Katherine Rettke completed an update on the "Questions and Answers" document and the expanded state contact list. Per the recommendation of EPA, Jeff Shavelson revised a list of federal agency acronyms that was subsequently added to the information specialist reference notebooks.

C. Web Site

The NLIC web site had 5,750 hits during the last quarter. During the same period, the automated phone system received 2,358 requests for the web site address.

The NLIC web site, under the guidance of Ana Rita Puertas, continues to be modified to provide more lead-related information to the public. A fax-back document order form installed on the site has generated more than 150 orders in December and January. As a result of discussions NLIC staff had with EPA, an interactive order form is being developed which can be downloaded on a daily basis by NLIC order fulfillment staff.

NLIC is also refining the web site home page to enhance the capacity of users to easily and quickly locate the information they desire. The information available through the site has also been expanded as links to NIEHS, AWWA, ATSDR, and Texas A&M University have been added to links to EPA, CDC, HUD, EDF, NSF, SSPC, CA Dept of Health, and the University of Chicago. Links to additional high quality lead information web sites will continue to be added in the future.

A list of state contacts have been added to the web site. The two most recent issues of *Lead Inform* are currently on the web site and older issues will be added in the near future. NLIC staff have begun the process of developing an index for the links and interactive forms for the Educational Materials Database and the Speakers Bureau.

D. PSA Activities

Radio public service announcements in English have been taped and will be duplicated and distributed within the next few weeks. (See attached psa scripts). Spanish radio psa's are being discussed as a joint project with the Hispanic Radio Network and the Children's Television Workshop.

E. Outreach

On November 15, Max Weintraub attended the Lead in the Southwest conference in Phoenix, Arizona and presented information in workshops on "NLIC and the health professional: Resources for prevention" and "Where do we go from here?"

On November 20, Dr. Janet Phoenix spoke during a plenary session on "The Environment, Public Health and Social Justice" at the American Public Health Association annual meeting which was held in New York City. At the same meeting, Dr. Phoenix also facilitated the November 18 session on "Lead Poisoning: Towards Primary Prevention". During that session, Max Weintraub presented a talk titled "Childhood Lead Poisoning: An Environmental Justice Success Story?". Part of that talk has been accepted for publication in the *Journal of the American Public Health Association* as a Letter to the Editor.

In December, NLIC, in conjunction with the New York City Department of Health, Prudential Corporation, and Children's Television Workshop, coordinated with Pathmark Stores the distribution of 800,000 half-gallon cartons of milk in the New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut area with information on the side of the carton on how proper nutrition can help protect children from lead poisoning. (See attached copy of milk carton side)

In December, NLIC submitted an article to the newsletter of the Native American Indian Housing Council about grants available to assist tribes with lead poisoning prevention.

On December 5 and January 17 Gabriel Cano attended the DC Lead Community Meetings and committed NLIC to assisting this group with future outreach efforts.

On December 17, Linda Watson gave a presentation on lead poisoning prevention to "Women Like Us", a community group consisting of residents of several housing projects in Anacostia.

On December 19, Max Weintraub presented a one-hour talk titled "National non-profit organizations and childhood lead poisoning" to the staff of the California Department of Health Services Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Branch.

In January the sixth issue of *Lead Inform* was published and sent to more than 800 subscribers nationwide.

On January 18 Linda Watson and Max Weintraub spoke to the Environmental Justice Youth Council at the University of Maryland, Environmental Health Education Center.

National Lead Information Center

Quarterly Report - February 1 through April 30, 1997

A. Hotline Operation

Between February 1 and April 30, 1997, the lead hotline (800-LEAD-FYI) received a total of 4,249 calls. Since April 9, 1997, the lead hotline has been redirected into a multiple option automated message system that also serves callers into the NLIC Clearinghouse (800-424-LEAD). The first option allows callers to leave their name and address in order to receive a general information packet that consists of materials previously offered through the hotline. f With the implementation of this new system, the number of callers requesting this information has doubled from an average of 1,200 per month to 2,400 per month. Discussions have continued with EPA staff about updating the materials in the general information packet. In the interim, NLIC continues to print and collate materials to handle these requests, except the *Lead Poisoning and Your Children* brochure which EPA provides.

B. Dissemination of Disclosure (section 1018) materials

There were a total of 1 6,946 calls in the last quarter requesting disclosure related materials through the automated system, a 50% decrease from the previous quarter. Disclosure information is offered as the second option on the multiple option automated message system implemented on April 9. By selecting the second option, callers can have disclosure information mailed or faxed, or they can learn where such information is available on the Internet. NLIC continues to print and collate materials to handle these requests.

Callers have the option of requesting one of two different packets of materials on disclosure (See attached list of materials.) The more complete packet includes a copy of the *Federal Register* announcement and the *Interpretive Guidance for the Real Estate Community*.

C. Clearinghouse

The third option offered by the multiple option automated phone message is to speak to an information specialist at the NLIC Clearinghouse. There were a total of 12,537 calls to the Clearinghouse - 4,334 calls in February, 4,293 in March, and 3,910 in April.

Also, NLIC staff are taking orders for materials and answering questions related to lead which reach NLIC via e-mail at leadctr@nsc.org.

D. Lead Listing

In accordance with our agreement with EPA and HUD, as of April 9, the fourth option offered by the multiple option automated phone message has been a direct transfer to the Lead Listing (888-LEAD-LIST) of certified inspectors, risk assessors and contractors. According to Kenn White of the National Lead Abatement Council, which operates the Lead Listing, the initial figures indicate the average call load to the Lead Listing increased five-fold (from ten calls per weekday to fifty calls per weekday) once the option was introduced.

E. Web Site

The newly updated and expanded NLIC web site is now on-line (<http://www.nsc.org/ehc/lead.htm>). One new feature is an 'Interactive Document Order Form.' Visitors to the site can order documents on-line and will receive their request by mail within two weeks. Some of the materials are also available in an electronic format in which case the request will be sent directly to the visitors e-mail address.

Also new is section with information and documents available in Spanish. Several documents can be printed and copied for distribution. Links to additional sites offering more information on lead poisoning prevention (in English and Spanish) are also available. Full text for NLIC's quarterly newsletter, *LeadInform*, is also available at the web site.

The NLIC web site had 4,869 hits during the quarter. During the same period, the automated phone system received 1,251 requests for the web site address.

F. PSA Activities

Radio PSAs are being developed and will be distributed in early June. Print PSAs continue to be distributed.

NLIC staff are working with Children's-Television Workshop and the Hispanic Radio Network to develop a series of short radio programs on lead poisoning in Spanish which will be aired on the Hispanic Radio Network this summer.

G. Outreach

NLIC staff took part in a poster presentation at the 'Children's Environmental Health Network Research Practice Prevention Policy' conference in Washington D.C. on February 22.

NLIC staff hosted a booth at a fair at Ballston Mall in Arlington, Virginia on April ... NLIC staff met with staff of the New York City Health Department, and presented an overview of services provided by the National Lead Information Center.

NLIC staff worked with United Parents Against Lead-Virginia Chapter to host their First Annual Block Party entitled "Lead Poisoning Is Wasting Our Children ... Let's Stop it Now!!!" on Saturday, April 26th Richmond, Virginia. The focus of the event was to inform and educate the public about the various risks associated with lead poisoning (i.e. physical, mental, social and financial/economical risks) in the relaxed atmosphere of a community block party" setting. The event included: free lead screening, guest speakers, information tables, display of the '*Sesame Street* Lead Away' video, pony rides, and musical entertainment.

NLIC was a sponsoring organization for the 'National Lead-Safe Housing Conference and Exposition' in Washington, D.C. This conference took place April 28 through April 30.

NLIC co-sponsored the 'Parents Preventing Childhood Lead Poisoning' conference in Birmingham, Alabama on May 3. The targeted audience of this conference was the parents of children at risk of lead exposure. Events included lectures and workshops, free lead screening, and exhibits. Free child care was provided.

Work continued on revising and updating the 'Lead: Some Questions and Answers" document which now contains 77 questions. The document is expected to be completed and duplication will take place in May. This document will be distributed primarily to public health professionals and others working on lead poisoning prevention.

Lead Inform continues to be sent to approximately 3,800 subscribers. The Summer 1996 issue of *Lead inform* received forty responses to our Native American Network mail-back. The Winter 1997 issue of *Lead Inform* received fifteen responses to the Hispanic Outreach mail-back.

NLIC: Disclosures Update

The following is an update on documents included in Disclosures Packet one and Packet two as of 2/18/97:

Disclosure - Packet one documents:

1. Disclosure of Information on Lead-Based an/or Lead-Based Paint Hazards (form for Lessor's and Seller's Disclosure)
2. Protect Your Family From Lead in Your Home (color booklets)
3. Protect Your Family From Lead in Your Home (black & White copy)
4. Fact Sheet - EPA and HUD Move to Protect Children from Lead-Based Paint Poisoning; Disclosure of Lead-Based Paint Hazards in Housing, March 1996
5. Multiple Copies of National Lead Information Center Materials
6. Fact Sheet - HUD Announces New System for Consumers to Identify and Locate Trained Lead Service Providers
7. Finding a Qualified Lead Professional for Your Home
8. EPA and HUD Real Estate Notification and Disclosure Rule (Questions and Answers)
9. EPA Fact Sheet: Identifying Lead Hazards in Your Home (Note: additional new insertion)

Disclosure - Packet two documents:

1. Disclosure of Information on Lead-Based an/or Lead-Based Paint Hazards (form for Lessor's and Seller's)
2. Protect Your Family From Lead in Your Home (color booklets)
3. Protect Your Family From Lead in Your Home (black & White copy)
4. Fact Sheet - EPA and HUD Move to Protect Children from Lead-Based Paint Poisoning; Disclosure of Lead-Based Paint Hazards in Housing, March 1996
5. Multiple Copies of National Lead Information Center Materials
6. Fact Sheet - HUD Announces New System for Consumers to Identify and Locate Trained Lead Service Providers
7. U.S. EPA Compliance Assistance Approached to Lead-Based Paint Disclosure Requirements
(Section 1018), August 1996
8. Interpretive Guidance for the Real Estate Community on the requirements for Disclosure of Information Concerning Lead-Based Paint in Housing, Part II, December 5, 1996, (August 20, 1996, Part I - combined into one publication)
9. Federal Register, Part VIII, Department of Housing and Urban Development Environmental Protection Agency, March 6, 1996
10. Finding a Qualified Lead Professional for Your Home
11. EPA and HUD Real Estate Notification and Disclosure Rule (Questions and Answers)
12. EPA Fact Sheet: Identifying Lead Hazards in Your Home (Note: additional new insertion)

Thank you. Rachel

National Lead Information Center

Quarterly Report - May 1 through July 31, 1997

A. Hotline/Clearinghouse Operation

The Lead Hotline (800-LEAD-FYI) and Clearinghouse (800-424-LEAD) phone numbers were channeled into a single, automated answering system on April 9, 1997.

An automated response gives callers four options: 1) general information on lead poisoning prevention; 2) information on the Notification and Disclosure Rule; 3) the ability to speak directly with an information specialist; and, 4) information on locating a qualified lead inspector or contractor.

The first option in the automated answering phone system allows callers to leave their name and address in order to receive a General Information packet that consists of materials previously offered through the separately processed Hotline number (EPA brochure, 3 fact sheets, and state contact list). That option was selected and materials were distributed to 5,557 callers during the quarter: 1,865 during May, 1,865 during June, and 1,827 during July.

Disclosure information is offered as the second option on the automated message system. The system provides callers an opportunity to order either of two packets of information regarding the real estate disclosure requirements for lead-based paint and lead-based paint hazards. The more complete packet includes a copy of the *Federal Register* announcement, the August 1996 publication, *U.S. EPA Compliance Assistance Approach to Lead-Based Paint Disclosure Requirements (Section 1018)*, and the August 20, 1996 and December 5, 1996 releases of *Interpretive Guidance for the Real Estate Community*. (See attachment for a complete list of items in each of the packets.) Callers are able to order materials to be delivered via US Mail or by fax. They are also able to learn where disclosure information is available on the Council's web page. NLIC continued to print and collate materials to handle these requests.

During the quarter, 4,607 requests for disclosure information were received. During May, 1,075 requests were made for mail delivery, 339 were made for fax delivery, and 161 sought information regarding its availability through our web site. During June, 753 requests were made for mail delivery, 282 were made for fax delivery, and 125 sought information regarding its availability through our web site. During July, 692 requests were made for mail delivery, and 273 were made for Fax delivery, and 146 sought information regarding its availability through our web site. A quarterly total of 446 callers made no selection of materials.

The third option offered by the automated phone message system enables callers to speak to an Information Specialist at the NLIC between the hours of 8:30 AM and 5:00 PM, EST, Monday through Friday. NLIC staff responded to a total of 9,143 calls during this quarter: 3,248 in May, 2,988 in June, and 2,907 in July. The NLIC staff responded to approximately 2,300 calls with questions regarding real estate disclosure. Approximately 500 calls were made regarding each of the following categories - abatement and risk management, general information, environmental testing, and health effects. Other topics drew fewer than 100 callers each. Those who call after business hours are able to leave a message to order specific publications or request a return call.

In addition, NLIC staff responded to lead-related questions which reached the NLIC via e-mail at leadctr@nsc.org. Electronic mail addressed to our former address, ehc@cais.com (which appears in some publications), was automatically forwarded to the new address. Responses were made by e-mail, fax, or telephone call.

Visitors at the NLIC's web site (<http://www.nsc.org/ehc/lead.htm>) are also able to request documents by using the "Interactive Document Order Form." Visitors to the site who ordered documents while on-line, typically received their request by US Mail within two weeks. Some of the shorter materials are also available directly via e-mail; the requested information is directly sent to the e-mail address provided to us by the site's visitor.

B. Lead Listing

In accordance with our agreement with EPA and HUD, the fourth option of the automated telephone message system provided a direct transfer to HUD's Lead Listing telephone number (888-LEAD-LIST) during this quarter. The Lead Listing provides an automated system for assisting the public in identifying qualified inspectors, risk assessors and contractors for lead-based paint activities. Some callers reported that their calls were unanswered at LeadListing and NLIC staff reported the concern to the HUD project officer.

C. Web Site

The NLIC web site (<http://www.nsc.org/ehc/lead.htm>) remained on-line. It received 7,140 hits during the quarter; 2,436 in May, 2492 in June, and 2,212 in July.

Edits and updates of information provided on the web page were made on a regular basis. Information was available in both English and Spanish.

A large proportion of those who requesting publications through the web page's Interactive Document Request Form were health professionals. Also, web site visitors tended to order relatively large numbers of documents at one time, more than were typically ordered by those calling the Hotline/Clearinghouse.

D. PSA Activities

In July, English language radio PSAs were distributed to approximately 3,100 radio stations. (A copy of the transcript is attached.) The PSAs were developed by NLIC and Finger Lakes Productions.

NLIC staff members worked with the Children's Television Workshop and the Hispanic Radio Network to develop a series of short, PSA radio broadcasts regarding lead poisoning. These Spanish language messages are tailored to the needs of the Latino community. The PSAs are scheduled to be distributed for air play during October.

In addition, three NLIC posters are being translated into Spanish and printed. Several professionals working with Latino communities across the U.S. on lead poisoning prevention will review and edit the text to ensure that its message is readily understandable by diverse Latino populations throughout the country, regardless of level of education, country of origin, or level of acculturation. These individuals have agreed to be available to provide advice to NLIC on a broad range of future activities directed towards the Latino population.

English language posters continued to be distributed.

E. Outreach

The NLIC continued work on a variety of outreach activities during this quarter.

NLIC co-sponsored a conference, "Parents Preventing Childhood Lead Poisoning," held in Birmingham, Alabama on May 3. Its targeted audience was the parents of children at risk of exposure to lead. Events included lectures and workshops, free lead screening, and exhibits. Free child care was provided. Other cosponsors included the Jefferson County Department of Health and the Souther Organizing Committee.

NLIC staff member Jeffrey Shavelson served as the leader of a roundtable on serving under served rural populations at the "Look Out for Lead Conference" held in Madison, WI on May 20-21.

NLIC staff member Katherine Rettke participated in and hosted a booth at the tristate regional lead conference, "Management of Environmental Lead Hazards: A Community Challenge," held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on June 10 and 11.

Jeffrey Shavelson conducted a session on funding childhood lead poisoning prevention programs at "Lead in the Northwest" conference held June 25 and 26 in Portland, Oregon. The conference was cosponsored by the Oregon Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, Oregon Health Division, USEPA Region 10, Idaho Lead Program, Washington Department of Health, Multi-Family Housing Council of Oregon, and others.

Katherine Rettke conducted two workshops and participated in a panel discussion at the Kiwanis International Conference in Nashville, TN from June 27 to July 1. As part of Kiwanis' focus on children, Kiwanis members were identifying issues for their community outreach activities.

David Thompson presented a discussion on lead poisoning at a seminar hosted by the Environmental Health Center, "Indoor Air Quality Training Workshop for Latino Organizations," on July 16. Though development and presentation of that program was funded by a separate grant from EPA's Environmental Justice program, lead was a topic for one of the sessions. Inclusion of this topic in the agenda expanded the Latino community's knowledge of lead hazards and provided them with tools to combat the problem in their communities.

The NLIC was represented at the National Conference of La Raza, held in Chicago from July 20-23. Its theme was "Latinos: No Challenges Unmet, No Issues Unanswered. "

To celebrate National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week (July 21-27), the NLIC provided a local outreach activity at the Ballston Commons Mall in Arlington, Virginia. NLIC staff distributed English and Spanish lead publications, and answered questions posed by shoppers and mall staff between 11:00 AM and 3:30 PM on Friday and Saturday, July 25 and 26. Many racial and ethnic groups were well-represented by the population of shoppers at the mall. NLIC Spanish-speaking and African-American staff at the booth proved to be an asset for reaching the significant Latino and African-American populations at the mall.

The NLIC also conducted follow-up activities associated with last quarter's outreach program in Richmond, VA, and has continued to develop outreach efforts with minority groups, including Native Americans.

In July, NLIC began preparations for participation in EPA's Third National Lead Conference; Lead Tech '97 Conference, scheduled to take place in Crystal City, VA from September 29 to October 1, 1997; and the American Public Health Association's Annual Meeting, scheduled to take place in Indianapolis, IN from November 9-13, 1997.

NLIC staff also continued to revise several documents including "Lead Educational Resources Database," "NUCEA Regional Lead Training Centers Project-Contact List," and "State Contacts for Additional Information on Lead." NLIC also began development of a resource list titled "National Governmental and Non-Profit Lead Contacts" (see attachment). This list provides contact information as well as a brief description of the services provided by each. NLIC's "Lead: Some Questions and Answers," was revised and duplicated during May. It is primarily being distributed to public health professionals and others working on lead poisoning prevention.

NLIC's quarterly newsletter, *Lead Inform*, continued to be sent to approximately 3,800 subscribers. New subscribers continued to be added to the distribution list database. That database was also edited to delete invalid addresses.

The NLIC received from the EPA during the last quarter two additional sets of documents to be made available to the public. The "Summary Report" volume and the complete, four-volume set of "Lead Exposure Associated With Renovation and Remodeling Activities" are now being distributed. The second document, "A Laboratory Study of Lead-Cleaning Efficacy" is a single volume, and is also available for distribution. These reports will be announced in the next edition of *Lead Inform*.

The NLIC also received from HUD a new videotape, "Moving Toward a Lead-Safe America." The NLIC will make this non-copyrighted video available for loan to the public.

Dr. Janet Phoenix, as part of a subcontract with USAID, traveled to Cairo to provide assistance to the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency as part of a project entitled Lead Exposure Abatement Plan (LEAP). The end product of her work will be a plan for public awareness, education and training activities to alert the public and special populations at risk of lead hazards such as ceramics, food and traditional cosmetics (kohl) and to teach them simple steps they can take to reduce exposure. The LEAP plan will be presented at a workshop scheduled for September of this year.

NLIC continued to provide assistance to the Deep South Center for Environmental justice at Xavier University as they plan and carry out lead educational activities targeted at high risk communities in New Orleans. These activities are funded by a grant from the EPA's Office of Environmental Justice through a subagreement with Xavier. NLIC will be responsible for conducting train-the-trainer activities for community residents on lead hazard reduction.